



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: January 12, 2010

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Facility Planning and Development Division, Airport Department

SUBJECT: Wetland Mitigation Monitoring Biological Services Annual Contract

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council approve and authorize the Airport Director to execute an annual contract with URS Corporation for post-construction biological monitoring associated with the Airfield Safety Projects and other small projects at the Santa Barbara Airport in an amount not to exceed \$110,371.08, and authorize the Airport Director to approve expenditures up to \$11,037 for extra services that may result from necessary changes in the scope of work.

DISCUSSION:

The mitigation phase of the Airfield Safety Projects began in February 2007. It involves approximately 30 acres of habitat restoration over three sites in the Goleta Slough: Area I, Tecolotito Creek Relocation Area, and Tecolotito Creek Berms. In order to comply with the Coastal Development Permit issued for the Airfield Safety Projects, these sites must be monitored and maintained for a minimum of seven years. This authorization would provide funding for biological monitoring through the fourth year, ending December 2010.

CONSULTANT SELECTION

In September 2006, the Airport solicited for biological monitoring and reporting services associated with this project. Consistent with federal requirements, the consultant selection process followed federal guidelines, which require selection based on the qualifications of the consultant, not a fee-based bid. The fee is negotiated after the best-qualified consultant is identified.

Requests for Proposals were sent to qualified firms, and four responses were received. All four responding firms were interviewed and URS Corporation was ranked as having the best qualifications for the work involved.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Funds for this contract are currently budgeted in the Airport Operating Fund.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:

This contract will further the City's Sustainable Santa Barbara Program by enhancing the Goleta Slough ecosystem and protecting it from threats such as invasive plant species.

PREPARED BY: Andrew Bermond, Associate Planner

SUBMITTED BY: Karen Ramsdell, Airport Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office